

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

INFO USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

GOV PANCANAL IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFORPN

SUBJECT: U.S. PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: ACTIVITIES REPORT

FOR MINISTER BELL AND GENERAL DOLVIN.

I.

THIS IS MESSAGE NO. 7 FROM THE DEPARTMENT APPLICABLE TO THE
FEBRUARY 1976 NEGOTIATING ROUND IN PANAMA, DESPATCHED FROM
ARA/PAN AT 5:30 PM FEBRUARY 18.

II. BRIEFING ITEMS

A. THE SECRETARY'S TRIP -- AS MAY HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN
PANAMA PAPERS THE SECRETARY INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING STATE-
MENTS IN HIS CARACAS SPEECH: "TO NEGOTIATE ON THE BASIS OF
PARITY AND DIGNITY OUR SPECIAL DIFFERENCES WITH EACH AND
EVERY STATE, BOTH BILATERALLY AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE,
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MULTILATERALLY, WE INTEND TO SOLVE PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY

BECOME CONFLICTS....AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE UNITED STATES AND PANAMA ARE CONTINUING TO MOVE FORWARD IN THE HISTORIC NEGOTIATIONS ON A PANAMA CANAL TREATY TO ESTABLISH A RELIABLE LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS."

SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE AS IT NOW STANDS HAS HIM DEPARTING LIMA ON THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 19, ARRIVING BRASILIA THAT AFTERNOON. HE REMAINS IN BRASILIA FEBRUARY 20, AND DEPARTS FOR RIO LATE IN THE MORNING FEBRUARY 21. HE DEPARTS RIO FOR BOGOTA IN THE EARLY EVENING OF FEBRUARY 22. ON THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 23 HE LEAVES FOR SAN JOSE. FOLLOWING THE FEBRUARY 24 LUNCHEON FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN LEADERS, HE DEPARTS FOR A BRIEF VISIT IN GUATEMALA CITY BEFORE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON LATE THAT EVENING.

B. DOLVIN-BUNKER LETTER -- PER BLACKEN REQUEST, WE HAVE TRANSMITTED BY PHONE TO EMBASSY COMPLETE TEXT OF FEBRUARY 3 DOLVIN-BUNKER LETTER. LETTER WAS NOT RECEIVED HERE UNTIL AFTER NEGOTIATORS HAD DEPARTED (2/10/76). PENDING DISCUSSION AND CLARIFICATION, WE HAVE NOT INITIATED ANY ACTION.

C. REVISED SPEECH ON CANAL NEGOTIATIONS -- HOWARD HAS PREPARED FIRST DRAFT OF REVISED SPEECH ON CANAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR POSSIBLE USE BY AMBASSADOR BUNKER IN LUNCHEON TALK WITH DC NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ON MARCH 17 AND/OR MARCH 18 BRIEFING OF NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION.

III. ACTION ITEMS

NONE. INGERSOLL

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